

Operational Security

1952-1954

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Security Information

27 October 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: Training Officers, DD/P

SUBJECT: Operational Security Course

1. A two-weeks' Operational Security Course is being added to the training program and is being offered in lieu of the Counter-espionage Course to meet indicated requirements of the operating officers. It does not, however, replace the CE Course, which is designed to train FI staff officers for operations in the field of counterespionage.

2. The Operational Security Course has as its objective to furnish the staff officer of all operating components with that knowledge and those techniques which will enable him competently to assess, control, and protect the security of his operations and operational facilities against the activities of all opposing elements. The aim of the course is to provide:

a. An understanding of the nature of and methods employed by the Soviet, Satellite and other CE services;

b. An analysis of the vulnerability of various types of of clandestine operations to detection and penetration by the opposition; and

c. A study of those essential measures and countermeasures which can be undertaken as protection against detection and penetration.

3. The initial presentation of the Operational Security Course, to begin on Monday, 10 November, will be a seminar restricted to 12 senior staff officers who have had field or headquarters experience. A second presentation of the OSC is planned for 1 December and will also run for two weeks. This course will be open to all staff personnel who have successfully completed the courses of Common Instruction (BOC, CC and CAI) or have had equivalent field or headquarters experience. It will be limited to 25 qualified students.

4. Subsequent presentations of the OSC will be scheduled according to requirements. It is anticipated that another seminar for senior officers will be offered early in January, to be followed by further presentations of the course open to all qualified staff personnel.

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5. Training requests for FI students should be sent to the Training Officer, 1067 L Building, and for PP and PO students to RSD/TR, 2303 K Building. All students proposed for this course must have clearance for TOP SECRET material. The course commencing 10 November will be given in Room 218,

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Deputy Director of Training (Special)

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Security Information

OPERATIONAL SECURITY COURSE NO. 3

First Week

Monday, 12 January 1953

A. M. Operational Security in a Clandestine Service
P. M. Support and Protection Functions in Counterespionage

Tuesday, 13 January 1953

A. M. Security Control Problems - Agent Personnel
P. M. Security Control Problems - Agent Operational Activity

Wednesday, 14 January 1953

A. M. Security Control Problems II - Support, Subsidy, and
Joint Operations
P. M. Security Control Problems III - Operational Bases
Security Control Problems IV - Communications,
Other Support Facilities

Thursday, 15 January 1953

A. M. Current Active Opposition to CIA Operations
P. M.

25X1

Friday, 16 January 1953

25X1A

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OSC #3

Second Week

Monday, 19 January 1953

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A. M. &
P. M. Diplomatic and Other Official Installations

Tuesday, 20 January 1953

No class

Wednesday, 21 January 1953

A. M. & Handling of Suspected and Proven Compromises
P. M. (Case Discussions)

Thursday, 22 January 1953

A. M. General Countermeasures I - Covert Investigative
Facilities
General Countermeasures II - Protective - Informant
Operations
P. M. General Countermeasures III - Local Security Groups

Friday, 23 January 1953

A. M. & Political Aspects of Operational Security
P. M.

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Security Information

18 November 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: TRAINING OFFICERS, DD/P

SUBJECT: Operational Security Course #2

1. A two weeks' Operational Security Course will be conducted from Monday, 1 December, through Friday, 12 December 1952. The course will be conducted in Room 110,

25X1A

2. The object of this course is to furnish staff officers destined for operational responsibilities, with specific knowledge and techniques useful in the protection of operations and operational facilities against the activities of all opposing elements. It is intended to provide:

a. An understanding of the nature of and methods employed by the Soviet, satellite and other CE services;

b. An analysis of the vulnerability of various types of clandestine operations to detection and penetration by the opposition; and

c. A study of those essential measures and counter-measures which can be undertaken as protection against detection and penetration.

3. Enrollments in OSC #2 will be limited to twenty-five (25) qualified students who have successfully completed the courses of Common Instruction (BOC, OC, and CAI), or have had equivalent field or headquarters experience. All students proposed for this course must have clearance for TOP SECRET material.

4. Training requests for FI students should be sent to the Training Officer, 1067 L Building, and for PP and PM students to RSD/TR, 2303 K Building. Enrollments for this course will be closed by the Registrar, O/TR, on Wednesday, 26 November 1952.

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Deputy Director
of Training (Special)

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Security Information

2 January 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Training Officers, DD/P

SUBJECT: Operational Security Course No. 3

1. Operational Security Course No. 3 will be presented for a period of two weeks, beginning on Monday, 12 January. This course will be a seminar presentation for senior staff officers who have had prior field or headquarters experience.

2. The Operational Security Course has as its objective the provision to staff officers of all operating components of knowledge and techniques which will enable them competently to assist, control, and protect the security of operations and operational facilities against the activities of all opposing elements. The course is designed to provide:


a. An understanding of the nature of and methods employed by the Soviet, Satellite and other CE services;

b. An analysis of the vulnerability of various types of clandestine operations to detection and penetration by the opposition; and

c. A study of those essential measures and countermeasures which can be undertaken as protection against detection and penetration.

3. This seminar will be restricted to a total of twelve (12) students, and applications for all of the available openings have already been received by the Registrar, TR(S). Registration must, therefore, be considered as closed.

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Deputy Director of Training (Special) (

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Security Information

3 February 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Training Officers, DD/P

SUBJECT: Operational Security Course


1. It is planned that the two-week Operational Security Course (Advanced) will be given three times during the balance of 1953. These presentations are tentatively scheduled for 11 May, 3 August, and 7 December 1953. This course will be a seminar presentation for senior staff or staff officers (GS-13 and above) who have had prior field or headquarters experience and are destined for supervisory posts in the Clandestine Services. Enrollments in each course will be limited to twelve (12) students.
2. One-week Operational Security Courses, open to all qualified staff personnel, will be given beginning 2 March 1953 and 9 March 1953. Enrollments in each of these courses will be limited to forty (40) students who have successfully completed the Course of Common Instruction (BOC, OC, and CAI) or have had equivalent field or headquarters experience.
3. Following the two presentations of the one-week Operational Security Course mentioned in the preceding paragraph, the one-week Operational Security Course will cease to exist as an independent course. Beginning 2 March the CAI will be extended to four weeks and the operational security material will be incorporated as the fourth week of the C/I. Enrollment in this segment only (i.e., independently of the first three weeks of the CAI) will be permitted, subject to a limitation of a total of fifty (50) students.
4. All students proposed for any of the above courses must have clearance for TOP SECRET material.
5. Training requests for PP students should be sent to RS/TR, 2303 K Building, those for FI students to Training Officer, 1067 L Building, and those for PM students to OPOT/O&T, 1507 K Building.

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Security Information

6. Enrollments for the first one-week Operational Security Course will be closed 25 February; for the second one-week Operational Security Course on 4 March 1953.

7. Notification of the final registration dates for the future two-week Operational Security Courses will appear at a later date; it is requested, however, that training requests be submitted as far in advance as possible.


Deputy Director of Training (Special)

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Security Information

20 April 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: TRAINING OFFICERS, DD/P

SUBJECT: Operational Security Course #45

1. A two-week specialized training course in Operational Security will begin on Monday, 11 May, and end on Friday, 22 May 1953. This course will be a seminar presentation for senior staff officers who have had prior field or headquarters experience. Students enrolled for this course should report to Room 109, [] between 0830 and 0900 hours on the opening day of the course.

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2. The Operational Security Course has as its objective the provision to staff officers of all operating components of knowledge and techniques which will enable them to competently assist, control, and protect the security of operations and operational facilities against the activities of all opposing elements. The course is designed to provide:

a. An understanding of the nature of and methods employed by the Soviet, satellite and other CE services;

b. An analysis of the vulnerability of various types of clandestine operations to detection and penetration by the opposition; and

c. A study of those essential measures and countermeasures which can be undertaken as protection against detection and penetration.

3. Training requests for all students should be sent through administrative channels as outlined in [] Enrollment will be closed by the Registrar, OTR, at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 6 May 1953. This seminar course will be restricted to a total of twelve (12) students. All students must be cleared through TOP SECRET.

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4. Subsequent courses will be presented as requirements make them necessary.

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Deputy Director of
Training (Special)

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Security Information

16 November 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Staff and Division Personnel, DD/P

SUBJECT: Operational Security Course No. *36*

1. A two-week specialized training course in Operational Security will begin on Monday, 14 December, and end on Wednesday, 23 December 1953. This course will be a seminar presentation for senior staff officers who have had prior field or headquarters experience. Students enrolled for this course should report to Room 109, [redacted], between 0830 and 0900 hours on the opening day of the course.

25X1A

2. The Operational Security Course has as its objective the provision to staff officers of all operating components of knowledge and techniques which will enable them to competently assist, control, and protect the security of operations and operational facilities against the activities of all opposing elements. The course is designed to provide:

a. An understanding of the nature of and methods employed by the Soviet, satellite and other CE services;

b. An analysis of the vulnerability of various types of clandestine operations to detection and penetration by the opposition; and

c. A study of those essential measures and countermeasures which can be undertaken as protection against detection and penetration.

3. Training requests for all students should be sent through administrative channels as outlined in [redacted]. Enrollment will be closed by the Registrar, OTR, at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 9 December 1953. This seminar course will be restricted to a total of ten (10) students. All students must be cleared through TOP SECRET.

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4. Subsequent courses will be presented as requirements make them necessary.

for [redacted]
Deputy Director of Training

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Security Information

22 July 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Staff and Division Personnel, DD/P

SUBJECT: Senior Officers' Operational Security Course #5

1. Senior Officers' Operational Security Course #5, originally scheduled for 3 through 14 August 1953, is cancelled.
2. Dates for future presentations of the course will be announced soon.

Deputy  Director of Training (Special)

25X1A

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S-E-C-R-E-T
Security Information

OPERATIONAL SECURITY COURSE NO. 4

First Week

Monday, 11 May 1953

A. M. Operational Security in a Clandestine Service
P. M. Support and Protection Functions in Counterespionage

Tuesday, 12 May 1953

A. M. Security Control Problems - Agent Personnel
P. M. Security Control Problems - Agent Operational Activity

Wednesday, 13 May 1953

A. M. Security Control Problems II - Support, Subsidy, and
Joint Operations
P. M. Security Control Problems III - Operational Bases

Thursday, 14 May 1953

A. M. Current Active Opposition to CIA Operations

P. M.

25X1

Friday, 15 May 1953

25X1A

S-E-C-R-E-T

S-E-C-R-E-T
Security Information

OSC #4

Second Week

Monday, 18 May 1953

25X1A

A. M.

P. M.

[REDACTED]
Status Survey - Security Services of [REDACTED]

25X1A

Tuesday, 19 May 1953

A. M.

P. M.

Handling of Suspected and Proven Compromises
Case Clinic

Wednesday, 20 May 1953

A. M.

P. M.

& Case Clinic

Thursday, 21 May 1953

A. M.

General Countermeasures I - Covert Investigative
Facilities
General Countermeasures II - Protective - Informant
Operations

P. M.

General Countermeasures III - Local Security Groups

Friday, 22 May 1953

A. M.

P. M.

& Political Aspects of Operational Security

S-E-C-R-E-T

S-E-C-R-E-T

OPERATIONAL SECURITY COURSE NO. 6

First Week

Monday, 26 April 1954

- A.M. Administration
Definition of Terms
- P.M. Operational Security Concepts

Tuesday, 27 April

- A.M. Security Control Problems: Agent Personnel; Agent Activity
- P.M. Security Control Problems: Overseas Installations; Support;
Subsidiary and Joint Operations

Wednesday, 28 April

- A.M. Soviet I.S. - Operational Security Practices
- P.M. Staff C

Thursday, 29 April

- A.M.
- P.M. Coordination Problems in Deception

25X1A

Friday, 30 April

- A.M.
- P.M. Proprietary Establishments

25X1A

S-E-C-R-E-T

S-E-C-R-E-T

Second Week

Monday, 3 May 1954

A.M. Operational Security in Agent Assessment;
Defection: Hot and Cold Approaches

P.M. Reassessment and Review of Operations

Tuesday, 4 May

25X1A

A.M. Operational Security Practices

25X1A

P.M.

Wednesday, 5 May

25X1A

A.M. Operational Security Problems

P.M.

25X1A

Thursday, 6 May

To be announced

Friday, 7 May

A.M. Operational Security in Liaison

P.M. Review

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OPERATIONAL SECURITY COURSE NO. 7

First Week

Monday, 2 August 1954

A.M. Administration
Definition of Terms

P.M. Operational Security Concepts

Tuesday, 3 August 1954

A.M. Security Control Problems: Agent Personnel; Agent Activity

P.M.

25X1A

Wednesday, 4 August 1954

A.M. Soviet I.S. - Operational Security Practices

P.M. Security Control Problems: Overseas Installations; Support;
Subsidy and Joint Operations

Thursday, 5 August 1954

A.M. D/A OPS - Theory and Practice

P.M.

25X1

Friday, 6 August 1954

A.M. - Operational Security Aspects

P.M. STUDY

25X1A

S-E-C-R-E-T

S-E-C-R-E-T

Second Week

Monday, 9 August 1954

A.M. Operational Security in Agent Assessment;
Defection: Hot and Cold Approaches

P.M. Proprietary Establishments

Tuesday, 10 August 1954

25X1A

A.M. Operational Security Practices

25X1A

P.M.

Wednesday, 11 August 1954

A.M.

25X1A

P.M. To be announced.

Thursday, 12 August 1954

To be announced

Friday, 13 August 1954

A.M. Operational Security in Liaison

P.M. Review

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S-E-C-R-E-T

S-E-C-R-E-T

OPERATIONAL SECURITY COURSE No. 8

First Week

Monday, 15 November 1954

A.M. Administration
Definition of Terms

P.M. Operational Security Concepts

Tuesday, 16 November 1954

A.M. Soviet I.S. - Operational Security Practices

P.M.

[REDACTED]

25X1A

Wednesday, 17 November 1954

A.M. Operational Security Aspects in Denied Area

P.M. Operational Security Aspects of Group Operations

Thursday, 18 November 1954

25X6

A.M.

[REDACTED] Operational Security Aspects

P.M.

Operational Security Aspects:

[REDACTED]

Friday, 19 November 1954

A.M. Operational Security Aspects:

P.M.

Denied Area Operations: Theory and Practice

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Second Week

Monday, 22 November 1954

A.M. Student Presentations - Seminar
P.M. Operational Security In Liaison

Tuesday, 23 November 1954

A.M. Student Presentations - Seminar
P.M. Security Control Problems:
Agent Personnel and Agent Activity

Wednesday, 24 November 1954

A.M. Student Presentations - Seminar
P.M. Review and Reassessment of Operations

Thursday, 25 November 1954

H O L I D A Y

Friday, 26 November 1954

To be announced

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OPERATIONAL SECURITY COURSE No. 9

First Week

Monday, 15 November 1954

A.M. Administration
Definition of Terms

P.M. Operational Security Concepts

Tuesday, 16 November 1954

A.M. Soviet I.S. - Operational Security Practices

P.M.

25X1

Wednesday, 17 November 1954

A.M. Operational Security Aspects in Denied Area

P.M. Operational Security Aspects of Group Operations

Thursday, 18 November 1954

A.M. [] - Operational Security Aspects

P.M. Operational Security Aspects: []

Friday, 19 November 1954

A.M. Operational Security Aspects: []

P.M. Denied Area Operations: Theory and Practice

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Second Week

Monday, 22 November 1954

A.M.

Student Presentations - Seminar

P.M.

Operational Security In Liaison

Tuesday, 23 November 1954

A.M.

Student Presentations - Seminar

P.M.

Security Control Problems:
Agent Personnel and Agent Activity

Wednesday, 24 November 1954

A.M.

Student Presentations - Seminar

P.M.

Review and Reassessment of Operations

Thursday, 25 November 1954

H O L I D A Y

Friday, 26 November 1954

To be announced

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